

# South Dakota National Guard

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **General of First Army visits Golden Coyote exercise**

By Pfc. Jennifer Lena

129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

RAPID CITY, S.D. – The commander of First Army, Lt. Gen. Michael Tucker, visited the 31st Golden Coyote training exercise to interact with service members and tour the training sites on June 12 in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

The Golden Coyote exercise is hosted by the South Dakota National Guard and allows members of the Army, Navy and Air Force to train safely and effectively in their respective roles of combat support and combat service support missions.

“Golden Coyote has a great reputation,” said Tucker. “This is a very renowned training venue. What I enjoyed most was simply engaging with the troops and seeing them react to the training they received here.”

At this year’s Golden Coyote, there are about 2,600 participants from 35 military units represented from 12 different states alongside service members from the allied nations of Denmark, United Kingdom and Canada.

Soldiers, Airmen and Sailors come to share tactical strategies and test their skills in the realistic training environment that Golden Coyote provides.

“I was very glad to have Lt. Gen. Tucker take the time to come and visit our exercise,” said Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, the adjutant general of the South Dakota National Guard. “It’s apparent that he wants to support the National Guard and Army Reserve in our training needs. We are honored to have him pay the visit.”

During the visit, Tucker was able to witness service members in action when he observed a lifesaving medical reaction course, a mounted patrol lane, and a construction site of a bridge building project.

“Lt. Gen. Tucker’s visit is great exposure for Golden Coyote as we demonstrate its training value to not only the National Guard leadership but now the active duty leadership,” said Col. Tim Moran, deputy chief of staff of operations for the SDNG. “This is a beneficial and worthwhile training exercise to continue to support.”

Tucker spoke of the impression he took away from the troops he met.

“The most impressive thing about Golden Coyote was the attitude of the service members,” said Tucker. “They were glad to be here and were enjoying what they were doing. They felt like what they were doing had purpose and meaning. I’m very glad I came.”

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High resolution photos are available at [www.flickr.com/photos/southdakotationalguard](http://www.flickr.com/photos/southdakotationalguard)



**150612-Z-ZZ999-173:** U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Michael Tucker, commander of First Army, speaks to Sailors, of the Expeditionary Medical Facility Dallas 1, while visiting the Golden Coyote training exercise hosted by the South Dakota National Guard on West Camp Rapid in Rapid City, S.D., June 12, 2015. Lt. Gen. Tucker visited the exercise where National Guard, Reserve, active duty and allied nation forces come together to two weeks to train in support of overseas contingency operations and homeland support missions. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Jennifer Lena/Released)



**150612-Z-ZZ999-107:** U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Michael Tucker, commander of First Army, speaks to service members while visiting the Golden Coyote training exercise in Custer, S.D., June 12, 2015. Lt. Gen. Tucker visited the exercise where National Guard, Reserve, active-duty and allied nation forces come together to two weeks to train in support of overseas contingency operations and homeland support missions. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Jennifer Lena/Released)



**150612-Z-ZZ999-100:** U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Michael Tucker, commander of First Army, meets the NCO in charge of a bridge building project in Custer, S.D., while visiting the Golden Coyote training exercise hosted by the South Dakota National Guard, June 12, 2015. Lt. Gen. Tucker visited the exercise where National Guard, Reserve, active-duty and allied nation forces come together to two weeks to train in support of overseas contingency operations and homeland support missions. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Jennifer Lena/Released)



**150612-Z-ZZ999-194:** U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Michael Tucker, commander of First Army, meets Sgt. Maj. Mogens Sorensen, of Denmark, while visiting the Golden Coyote training exercise hosted by the South Dakota National Guard, June 12, 2015. Lt. Gen. Tucker visited the exercise where National Guard, Reserve, active-duty and allied nation forces come together to two weeks to train in support of overseas contingency operations and homeland support missions. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Jennifer Lena/Released)



**150612-Z-ZZ999-121:** U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Michael Tucker, commander of First Army, speaks to engineers of the Denmark Army while visiting the Golden Coyote training exercise hosted by the South Dakota National Guard in Custer, S.D., June 12, 2015. Lt. Gen. Tucker visited the exercise where National Guard, Reserve, active-duty and allied nation forces come together to two weeks to train in support of overseas contingency operations and homeland support missions. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Jennifer Lena/Released)

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